

JP '527 fails to describe a cosmetic sheet in the absence of a supporting layer.

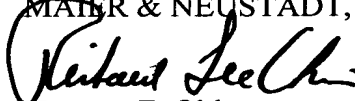
JP '527 describes a sheet-like pack used for skin regulation and cosmetic (page 5 [0001] of English language translation). The reference describes that the pack agent layer is provided on a base fabric, such a synthetic resin films, nonwoven fabrics, and non-woven paper (page 21 [0019] of English language translation). As such the reference clearly teaches the presence of a support layer and fails to disclose or suggest a cosmetic sheet in the absence of a support layer.

In contrast the present invention is directed to a sheet cosmetic comprising a single-layered aqueous gel sheet having no supporting layer. The claim limitation of "no supporting layer" is a claim limitation which is simply not found in the cited reference. As the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest this claim limitation, the present invention is clearly not obvious over the cited reference. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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